

# Urogynecologists

## OFFER ADVANCED SURGICAL OPTION

**S**OUTHEAST UROGYNECOLOGY AT Women's Specialty Center in Jackson, MS, is one of the few facilities in the area to offer laparoscopic sacral colpopexy to treat severe vaginal prolapse.



Steven E. Speights, M.D.

M.D., urogynecologist at Southeast Urogynecology. "The procedure itself is the gold standard to treat severe vaginal prolapse, and minimally invasive techniques help improve aesthetic results, reduce recovery time, assist with pain management and provide a



Robert L. Harris, M.D.

"We're one of the few centers in the southeast that perform a sacral colpopexy using laparoscopic techniques," says Steven Speights,

M.D., urogynecologist at Southeast Urogynecology. "The procedure itself is the gold standard to treat severe vaginal prolapse, and minimally invasive techniques help improve aesthetic results, reduce recovery time, assist with pain management and provide a quicker return to the patient's lifestyle."

Dr. Speights, who was fellowship trained at the University of Michigan, partners with Robert Harris,

M.D., urogynecologist, who was fellowship trained at Duke University, to offer this alternative to the traditional open, invasive procedure, which is associated with a large abdominal incision and an extended stay in the hospital.

"The laparoscopic technique utilizes four small incisions in the patient's abdomen," says Dr. Harris. "Since the incisions are so small — only 5 to 10 mm in size — they don't even require sutures."

### Addressing Vaginal Dysfunction

Concerns related to urinary or fecal incontinence and sexual dysfunction can be difficult subjects for physicians and patients alike. However, these discussions are imperative for patients to resume a high quality of life.

"My advice to physicians is to ensure you ask if the woman is experiencing any problems or has any concerns," says Dr. Speights. "Most women do want to talk about it to find a resolution, but they're often embarrassed. Studies have shown, however, that they will open up and acknowledge it, if a physician asks."

Drs. Harris and Speights can provide a number of vaginal prolapse solutions that range from therapy to surgical options.

"We offer minimally invasive, out-

patient procedures for a number of conditions," says Dr. Harris. "In most cases, when surgery isn't necessary, our two nurse practitioners provide excellent rehabilitative care that includes physical therapy for the pelvis."

At Southeast Urogynecology, the team works with each patient to achieve the results she wants.

"We tell patients that it's their responsibility to maximize their outcomes," says Dr. Speights. "It's about much more than just surgery. Women need to feel like they're part of the care they receive, and we're here to help lead them on that journey."

*To refer a patient for an appointment with Dr. Harris or Dr. Speights, or for additional information, visit [www.seug.com](http://www.seug.com), or call (601) 948-6540 or (800) 696-7059.*



**IN ADDITION TO** laparoscopic sacral colpopexy, the surgeons at Southeast Urogynecology at Women's Specialty Center in Jackson, MS, perform a variety of other advanced treatments and procedures including:

- + Minimally invasive sling procedures for stress incontinence
- + Sacral neuromodulation (Interstim) for urge incontinence
- + Advanced minimally invasive hysterectomy options
- + Minimally invasive vaginal surgery and vaginal mesh support procedures
- + Anal sphincteroplasty and other treatments for fecal incontinence
- + Evaluation and treatment for Interstitial Cystitis/ painful bladder

### COMPREHENSIVE NONSURGICAL MANAGE-

**MENT** and postoperative rehabilitative care is also available. These services are provided by the nurse practitioners of Innovative Pelvic Health — Mickie Autry, Ph.D., NP-C, and M. Jackie Williams, NP-C.

